

# the condition of education 2002



## INDICATOR 44

### Net Price of College Attendance

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2002*. Therefore, the page numbers may not be sequential.

Additional information about the survey data and supplementary notes can be found in the full report. For a copy of *The Condition of Education 2002*, visit the NCES web site (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2002025>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

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## NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS

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U.S. Department of Education  
Office of Educational Research and Improvement



# Private Financial Support

## Net Price of College Attendance

*One definition of the “net price” of college attendance is the amount that students pay with their own or borrowed funds after taking any grants received into account. Net price varies by the type of institution students attend and by family income.*

The price of college attendance, including tuition and fees, room and board, books, and other expenses, can affect a student's access to college. Some students receive grants from federal, state, institutional, or private sources to help pay these expenses (see supplemental table 44-1). Students are responsible for the difference between the total price of attendance and grants, which is called the “net price.” Students cover this amount with their own financial resources, help from their families, or borrowing.

The price of attendance for dependent, full-time, full-year undergraduates varies by type of institution. In 1999–2000, the average price of attendance was \$24,600 at private not-for-profit 4-year institutions, compared with \$12,500 at public 4-year institutions and \$8,600 at public 2-year institutions. The average net price of attendance—total price reduced by any grant aid—was \$17,800 at private not-

for-profit 4-year institutions, \$10,600 at public 4-year institutions, and \$7,600 at public 2-year institutions. Grants are generally need based, so taking into account total price and family financial resources, the net price of attendance is less for low- and lower middle-income students than for upper middle- and high-income students at public or private 4-year institutions.

Among other strategies, students can use loans and employment to pay the net price. The average amount that students borrowed in 1999–2000 ranged from \$3,600 at private not-for-profit 4-year institutions, \$2,000 at public 4-year institutions, and about \$400 at public 2-year institutions. On average, students from private not-for-profit 4-year institutions and students from public 2-year institutions contributed the most from earnings and students from public 4-year institutions, the least.

NOTE: Limited to students who attended only one institution. Averages include zero values. Table entries are rounded to the nearest \$100. Income categories are described in *Supplemental Note 12*. In 1999–2000, 49 percent of all undergraduates were considered financially dependent for financial aid purposes, and 58 percent of dependent students were enrolled full time, full year.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES. National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:2000).

**PRICE OF ATTENDING AND AID: Average price of college attendance and student financial aid for dependent full-time, full-year undergraduates, by type of institution and family income: Academic year 1999–2000**

Type of institution and family income	Tuition/fees	Total price	Grants	Net price	Student loans	Student earnings
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,100</b>	<b>\$15,100</b>	<b>\$3,100</b>	<b>\$12,000</b>	<b>\$2,200</b>	<b>\$3,700</b>
Public 4-year	4,400	12,500	1,900	10,600	2,000	3,500
Low income	3,900	11,800	3,900	7,900	2,300	3,700
Lower middle	4,200	12,200	2,000	10,200	2,200	3,700
Upper middle	4,500	12,700	1,200	11,500	2,200	3,800
High income	4,900	13,200	1,000	12,200	1,400	3,100
Private not-for-profit 4-year	16,100	24,600	6,800	17,800	3,600	5,300
Low income	13,200	20,900	8,700	12,200	4,000	4,600
Lower middle	15,700	24,300	8,100	16,200	4,100	5,300
Upper middle	16,400	25,000	7,000	17,900	4,000	5,900
High income	18,000	26,800	4,500	22,300	2,700	6,200
Public 2-year	1,600	8,600	1,000	7,600	400	5,700
Low income	1,600	8,400	2,300	6,100	400	4,900
Lower middle	1,800	8,700	700	8,000	600	6,300
Upper middle	1,700	8,700	400	8,300	300	5,200
High income	1,500	8,700	300	8,400	200	6,800



FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
Supplemental Notes 9, 12  
Supplemental Table 44-1

## Net Price of College Attendance

**Table 44-1** Percentage of full-time, full-year dependent undergraduates receiving different types of grants, by type of institution and family income: Academic year 1999–2000

Type of institution and family income	Total grants*	Total federal grants	Total state grants	Total institutional grants	Total other grants
<b>Total</b>	<b>56.2</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>33.1</b>	<b>15.6</b>
Public 4-year	51.3	22.0	20.4	23.9	15.6
Low income	83.9	71.6	40.0	31.5	13.7
Lower middle	57.3	22.5	25.8	26.8	16.8
Upper middle	38.3	1.9	12.1	21.3	16.0
High income	31.7	0.5	7.5	17.8	15.6
Private not-for-profit 4-year	74.9	23.0	25.4	63.7	20.4
Low income	90.5	78.3	42.8	62.6	18.1
Lower middle	80.7	28.3	36.8	70.1	23.6
Upper middle	78.9	2.7	24.6	72.6	23.0
High income	57.9	1.0	7.4	52.8	17.7
Public 2-year	42.8	23.5	17.8	15.9	10.1
Low income	72.7	63.2	33.4	25.2	8.6
Lower middle	42.3	14.2	17.7	15.0	11.6
Upper middle	24.6	0.8	8.1	9.4	12.4
High income	17.2	0.7	4.4	10.4	6.9

\*Includes the sum of all federal, state, institutional, and "other" grants (those not classified as federal, state, or institutional) received during 1999–2000. Includes employer tuition reimbursements and grants from private sources. Total grants may be greater than the sum of individual components since some students receive more than one type of grant.

NOTE: Limited to students who attended only one institution. For definitions of the categories, see *Supplemental Notes 9 and 12*.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES. National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:2000).

## Net Price of College Attendance

**Table S44** Standard errors for the average price of college attendance and student financial aid for dependent full-time, full-year undergraduates, by type of institution and family income: Academic year 1999–2000

Type of institution and family income	Tuition/fees	Total price	Grants	Net price	Student loans	Student earnings
Total	121.6	136.7	74.0	111.6	40.5	88.9
Public 4-year	77.6	104.3	42.8	106.2	47.2	98.5
Low income	119.9	203.3	119.6	167.6	101.3	189.1
Lower middle	97.5	124.1	78.6	124.1	81.6	169.2
Upper middle	99.8	120.2	73.1	126.0	79.4	167.2
High income	110.5	123.8	63.9	129.5	63.2	163.4
Private not-for-profit 4-year	254.3	278.9	213.3	271.6	92.4	573.0
Low income	532.3	640.4	398.7	430.8	211.3	652.0
Lower middle	329.6	368.8	376.7	384.5	170.8	369.2
Upper middle	307.4	337.7	374.0	396.9	163.8	715.9
High income	248.0	255.5	195.2	300.7	117.7	1863.6
Public 2-year	59.9	97.3	64.2	130.4	54.2	288.7
Low income	82.5	143.8	126.0	220.9	62.6	367.1
Lower middle	85.2	145.1	70.5	169.9	157.9	514.3
Upper middle	82.4	157.7	70.8	178.6	46.4	364.4
High income	94.0	167.8	66.5	172.4	55.2	562.8

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES. National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:2000).

## Net Price of College Attendance

**Table S44-1** Standard errors for the percentage of full-time, full-year dependent undergraduates receiving different types of grants, by type of institution and family income: Academic year 1999–2000

Type of institution and family income	Total grants	Total federal grants	Total state grants	Total institutional grants	Total other grants
Total	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.4
Public 4-year	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.5
Low income	1.2	1.6	2.2	1.8	1.0
Lower middle	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.0
Upper middle	1.4	0.4	1.0	1.1	1.0
High income	1.2	0.1	0.8	1.0	0.9
Private not-for-profit 4-year	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.7	0.9
Low income	1.3	1.9	2.7	3.5	1.8
Lower middle	1.7	1.8	2.4	2.4	1.8
Upper middle	2.1	0.6	1.9	2.6	1.6
High income	1.8	0.3	1.1	1.9	1.1
Public 2-year	2.0	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.2
Low income	2.8	3.0	3.2	2.5	1.9
Lower middle	3.3	2.1	2.8	2.5	2.1
Upper middle	3.0	0.6	1.5	2.2	2.3
High income	3.0	0.7	1.7	2.4	1.8

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES, National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:2000).